

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 2 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, amend claims 5 and 17 to more appropriately define Applicants' invention, and add new claims 18-21. The amendments to claims 5 and 17 are supported by the specification at least at page 3, lines 11-12 and page 4, lines 21-22. Claims 6-12 have been withdrawn from consideration in response to Applicants' election made in response to a restriction requirement. Thus, claims 1, 3-5, 13, and 15-21 are now pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Ando et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0015580). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites an "information storage medium having a recording region of audio information and image information" including "display mode information indicating a display method of the image information is described in the management information recorded at a head position in the first playback unit." Ando does not disclose at least these features.

By contrast, in the Ando system, the management information about cells is recorded in one or more pieces of cell information recorded in the management information recording area 130x. See Ando, paragraph 0128. Management information recording area 130x is shown, for example, in Fig. 9(d). Also, as described in connection with Fig. 3(e), the Ando system records management information about all AV information (including video information, still picture information, and audio information) in a file RTR.IFO 104. See paragraph 0069. However, management information recording area 130x and file RTR.IFO 104 do not constitute Applicants'

claimed "head position in the first playback unit." Instead, in the Ando system, video content information is recorded in a VR_movie object recording area 131X and audio content information is recorded in an AR_audio object recording area 133X, which are separate from management information recording area 130x. See paragraph 0125. Accordingly, Ando does not disclose at least "display mode information indicating a display method of the image information is described in the management information recorded at a head position in the first playback unit," as recited in claim 1. Since Ando does not teach each and every element of claim 1, Ando does not anticipate claim 1.

Claim 13, while of a different scope, includes recitations similar to allowable claim 1. The Examiner should thus withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 13 and allow the claims.

Claim 3 recites an "information storage medium having a recording region of audio information and image information" including "display mode information indicating a display method of the image information is described in a default play list that defines, in advance, a playback order or playback sequence of one or more first playback units, as attribute information of each first playback unit." Ando does not disclose at least these features.

Instead, in the Ando system, as shown in Fig. 3, components such as, for example, audio object unit entry 241x, Audio VOB information (A_VOBI #A) 242, audio VOB information (A_VOBI #B) 243, and item text #e 238X are stored separately from user-defined PGC information 234. See Figure 3. According to Ando, management information about the playback procedure "the user can specify arbitrary" is called "user-defined PGC" and can be named "play list" by the user. See Ando, paragraph

132. Accordingly, Ando does not disclose at least “display mode information indicating a display method of the image information is described in a default play list that defines, in advance, a playback order or playback sequence of one or more first playback units, as attribute information of each first playback unit,” as recited in claim 3. Since Ando does not teach each and every element of claim 3, Ando does not anticipate claim 3.

Claim 15, while of a different scope, includes recitations similar to allowable claim 3. The Examiner should thus withdraw the rejection of claims 3 and 15 and allow the claims.

Claim 4 recites an “information storage medium having a recording region of audio information and image information” including “display mode information indicating a display method of the image information is described in a play list in which a playback order or playback sequence of one or more first playback units is arbitrarily defined, as attribute information of each first playback unit.” Ando does not disclose at least these features, for reasons similar to those discussed above. For example, in the Ando system, the user-defined PGC, which is shown as PGC information 234 in Figure 3, for example, is stored separately from other data. Accordingly, Ando does not anticipate claim 4.

Claim 16 , while of a different scope, includes recitations similar to allowable claim 4. The Examiner should thus withdraw the rejection of claims 4 and 16 and allow the claims.

Claim 5, as amended, recites “an information storage medium having a recording region of audio information and image information” including “display mode information indicating a display method of the image information is described as attribute

information in a portion of information that pertains to the second playback unit, wherein said attribute information includes a display timing mode, and said display method includes display timing of the image information" (emphasis added). Ando does not disclose at least this feature. Since Ando does not teach each and every element of claim 5, Ando does not anticipate claim 5.

Claim 17, as amended, while of a different scope, includes recitations similar to allowable claim 5. The Examiner should thus withdraw the rejection of claims 5 and 17 and allow the claims.

Because claims 2 and 14 have been canceled, the rejection with regard to these claims is moot. Additionally, new claims 18-21, which depend from claim 1, are allowable at least due to their dependence. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to allow claims 18-21.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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